(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. It was concluded that it would not be correct to grant environmental clearance until the Government of Gujarat determines the carrying capacity of the region, evolves an appropriate system of monitoring and other safeguards suggested by the experts are taken.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. As directed by the Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat, the application is being reconsidered. To help the Ministry in arriving at the correct decision, an Expert Committee under the chairmanship of Justice Y.V. Chandrachud, former Chief Justice of India was constituted and the Committee has since submitted its report. A decision on this will be taken shortly.

Support envisaged for BIL and SSPL to meet working capital requirement

*345. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZRS be pleased to refer to the answer to part (d) of Starred Question 42 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29th May, 1998 and state:

(a) the actual support envisaged in 1998-99 to enable BIL and SSPL to meet their working capital requirements and critical capital expenditure as assured one page (7) of the aforesaid reply;

(b) whether efforts to streamline the operation of loss-making undertakings (page-9 of the reply) include replacement of primary, reformer in Durgapur unit of HFC; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures taken by Government to improve its performance after the suspension of operation on 24th June, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICAL AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) The Budget provision for the year 1998-99 for BIL and SSPL has been proposed as follows:

Rs./Crore

	Plan	Non-Plan
BIL	1.00	1.00
SSPL	1.00	1.00

(b) and (c) Due to resource constraints, it has not been possible to allocate the budgetary support required by HFC for undertaking the capital investment for renovation of critical equipments, including replacement of primary reformer top, at Durgapur Unit. The decision with regard to further capital investment for improving the performance of Durgapur Unit will be possible only in the context of the rehabilitation scheme for HFC, which is to be submitted to the Board for industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

Growth in fertilizer production

*346. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the overall growth in fertilizer production during 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 especially of urea in the public sector units;

(b) whether there has been sharp shortfall in the context of urea production in the public sector units;

(c) the action proposed to improve the quality in urea production and restructuring technology especially for fertilizer sector; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b) During the last three years, the production of